

**THE WORSHIP OF GOD AND
FELLOWSHIP AMONG MEN:
A SERIES OF SERMONS ON
PUBLIC WORSHIP**

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The Worship of God and Fellowship Among Men: A Series of Sermons on Public Worship by
Frederick Denison Maurice

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THE WORSHIP OF GOD.

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A SERIES OF

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[Frederick Denison Maurice and others.]

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PREFACE.

THESE Sermons were not addressed specially to any class. They were, however, suggested by the recent effort to bring the members of the Working Class to our Churches. That effort will surely be attended with infinite blessings, if it leads us to think of the wants which are common to us all. It may produce mischief, if it nourishes the thought that our poorer brethren are in greater danger than we are of becoming heathens and godless, or that there is more than one way of delivering the rich, the poor, the whole land from that danger. A Gospel of God, a Gospel that He is caring for us all, seeking after us all, drawing us to Himself, offering us Communion with Him as the

great reward, holding out separation from Him as the infinite loss,—this has been in former days, this must be in ours, the foundation of all practical teaching, of all deliverance for the conscience of individuals, for the societies of men. To use arts of terror or persuasion for the purpose of inducing men of one class or another to care for their souls, would be natural and reasonable if we were not entrusted with a message from God, that He cares more for their souls and bodies than they or we care for them. If that message is committed to us, surely our business is to deliver it; to set forth the signs and tokens which God has given that it is a true message and that He will make it effectual; to expect more from His revelation of Himself than from any brilliancy of speech or wisdom that the most skilful or powerful preacher has attained.

Those who preached these Sermons were desirous to set forth this old truth in the simplest language they could find. They trust that their words may reach some who have

PREFACE.

been excluded by their own fault or by any thing else from the ordinances of the Church of Christ. They trust that the same words may remind those who habitually partake of these ordinances, that God is the author of them, that God is the end of them; that they proclaim Him as their Father and the Father of all the families of the earth, as their Reconciler and as the Reconciler of the whole world.

